

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR DEAF/BLIND AND RUBELLA
HANDICAPPED

ANNUAL REPORT
and ACCOUNTS
for Year 1978~79

Registered Office: 164, Cromwell Lane, Coventry CV4 8AP

Central Office: Suffolk House, 10, The Butts, Coventry

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR DEAF/BLIND AND RUBELLA HANDICAPPED

Formerly The National Association for Deaf/Blind and Rubella Children
Registered in accordance with National Assistance Act 1948 and the Charities Act 1960. No. 269772

<i>Patron:</i>	Lord Mobray-King
<i>President:</i>	Dr. G.B. Simon, M.B. Ch.B. S.F.C. Psych. D.P.M.
<i>Vice-Presidents:</i>	Mrs. P. Freeman, M.B.E. Mrs. M. Brock Dr. H.M. Cohen, C.B.E.
<i>Chairman:</i>	Mrs. P. Freeman, M.B.E.
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	Mrs. J. Hills.
<i>Hon Treasurer:</i>	Mr. E.D. Roper, 6 Monks Manor Drive, Lincoln.
<i>General Secretary:</i>	Mr. J.P. Owen

Members of the Council:

Mrs. C. Best, Mr. P. Freeman, Mrs. J. Hills, Mrs. I. Hulse, Mrs. L. Jameson,
Mrs. M. White, Mr. G. Williams, Mr. T. Best (co-opted)

Regional Organisers:

<i>London & South East:</i>	Mrs. T. Burgess
<i>Eire:</i>	Mrs. Blake.
<i>Wales and West:</i>	Mrs. A. Cole
<i>North:</i>	Mrs. K. Clisby, J.P.
<i>South Midlands:</i>	Mrs. H. Chapman
<i>West Midlands:</i>	Mrs. B. Evans
<i>Eastern:</i>	Mr. A. Botwright
<i>Education Chairman:</i>	Mrs. I. Hulse
<i>Library:</i>	Mr. T. Best
<i>Student Secretary:</i>	Miss. S. Warraker
<i>Film Secretary:</i>	Mrs. B. Evans
<i>Caravan Secretaries:</i>	Mr. E. Jones Mrs. W. Warraker Mrs. K. Clisby

ANNUAL REPORT 1978~79

This year has been an exciting one in many respects, but particularly because, thanks to the Thames Television Magpie Appeal, we are now in a position to finance two major projects which will provide vital services for both the under and over 16's. The Hostel in Market Deeping for the over 16's was already on the cards at the end of last year, now the number of places is increased from 9 to 12 by the addition of separate bedsitters for the more able young people and the conversion of the outbuildings can be undertaken to provide a gym, a workshop and a house for the Principal. Full planning permission has been granted for all these additions.

Two meetings have been held at Market Deeping since the last A.G.M. The first was to enable our members and interested officials of the Local and County Authorities to view the Manor House and then meet to combine views and ideas after hearing of the more detailed suggestions of the sub-committee which had been approved by the Council.

The second meeting, a public meeting, was held in March, 1979, to keep the people of the Deepings fully informed of our intentions and this proved very successful in revealing the solidarity of support for our project.

Our architect for the work is Mr. Wilkinson, of Ruddle, Wilkinson & Partners, Peterborough, who, as a member of the National Deaf/Blind Helpers' League, is conversant with and sympathetic to the needs of the deaf blind. We give our thanks for his valued guidance.

The second project which the Magpie Team were interested in was the suggestion of the National Centre for the Deaf/Blind Children where we could house a mother/baby unit, a resource centre, toy and book library, information centre, short-term stay facilities to meet family needs for emergency care of the handicapped child and, at a later date, we hope to have a small teaching unit. The Council decided that this would best be situated in London and after much searching, a suitable house was found in Ealing, costing £90,000. Planning permission for change of use was granted and having obtained a satisfactory survey, the purchase has now been completed and the setting up of the Centre is now proceeding.

We have been grateful to the Department of Health and Social Security and to the Leverhulme Trust for the financial support which has been given during the year. Without this support we would have had difficulty in pursuing our objectives and maintaining our service to the many needing the help which only our Association can provide.

Our information service to parents and local authorities, the regional meetings and the leaflets on immunisation sent to Health Authorities and schools along with the demand for the Association films to be used during the year when an awareness of the dangers of Rubella has been made more manifest as the result of the epidemics during the Spring and Summer of 1978, has proved the great need of our Association. The many lectures given by our Chairman, Secretary, Vice-Presidents and other members, have helped to give an awareness of the service we are able to provide. Our Newsletter is received very favourably

by all and suggestions for further enriching its pages are always being considered. More contributions from members have been requested and it is hoped that these will be forthcoming in the year ahead.

Once again we are able to report a successful holiday for the children held this year at Southerndown, South Wales. We have to thank Mrs. C. Best and her helpers for so ably taking over this very important work in not only giving the children a taste of the sea air coupled with the freedom of a holiday, but in relieving parents of the strain and stress of caring for their children for two weeks.

Our Caravan Secretaries have again had a busy year, preparing, booking holidays and looking after the caravans generally. Mrs. Warraker, Mr. Jones and Mrs. Clisby are to be thanked and congratulated for the splendid work which they do.

Sheila Warraker, who has overcome many difficulties caused by Rubella, has done splendid work during the year in replying to our student enquiries. She has dealt with requests from many sources. This has been done in spite of many setbacks in health during the severe winter and coupled with the work as Regional Secretary.

Mr. Roper, our very able Treasurer, has had to cope with added responsibilities this year due to the increased finance of the Magpie Appeal which has brought more exchanges of money and bills. He has dealt with this with his usual carefulness and thoroughness and has always been available with his valued advice.

The Magpie Appeal mentioned has also brought out the need for a great deal of self-sacrifice from many people. No one has given such inspiration and giving of one's self as our Chairman, Peggy Freeman, and her husband, Peter. Since it became known that Thames Television had allowed our Association to benefit this year from the Magpie Appeal a tremendous amount of work was put into the effort. In the first instance a meeting with the Magpie Producer, Tim Jones, and his staff, took place with Peggy and Peter Freeman, Jessica Hills and the General Secretary, Pryce Owen, when various ideas and suggestions were put forward as to the needs of the deaf blind. The National Centre at Market Deeping was agreed upon as something which was already in being and which could be filmed immediately, although the proposed extensions were the interest expressed by the T.V. team. Our Chairman from this time onwards gave all her energies in helping to bring about a successful conclusion to the Appeal. Advice, visits and weeks spent in supervising and working at the Appeals Office at the T.V. Studios, were the lot of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman. The members of the London Region, including our London Organiser, Trisha Burgess, and many friends, spent hours not only at the studio but at home, writing out replies to the 45,000 letters received. The London Region Chairman and Secretary did a splendid job in organising the helpers and almost lived with the work. This in spite of having a new baby born in the midst of the turmoil. Mr. & Mrs. Brooker deserve a special praise for their part. They, along with other members and their children, were also stars of the film interviews and were all excellent in placing before the vast public the seriousness of the Rubella virus.

We have to welcome a new region to the Association — the Scottish Region with Sister Ailish Massey as the Chairman and Mr. D. Nimmo as the Organiser. We are always pleased to expand the services of the Association and hope that

several new contacts made as a result of the Appeal may be able to form a Regional Group in the North West. We also welcome Mrs. Irene Hulse as our Education Chairman in place of Mr. Tony Best who remains on the Council in an advisory capacity.

Further Seminars attended by teachers of the deaf/blind on the subject of Communication have been held and considerable progress made in the design of a Schedule of development of communication in the young deaf/blind child. This, together with the Hostel and the National Centre have been put forward as the Association's special projects for the International Year of the Child.

That we can with confidence undertake these new projects is the result of 24 years' experience provided by our members, parent and professional alike. In the Centre we shall provide a place for parents to help parents, particularly those with very young deaf/blind babies, so filling the gap in services which has concerned us greatly. In the Hostel we have undertaken the first step towards our aim for 5 Regional Hostels for the older deaf/blind. In all, the past year has been a very fruitful and successful year and we owe a special thank you to Tim Jones, Mary Austin and the Magpie Team, not only for the superb programmes that brought a response of over £250,000 to finance our projects, but brought before the public the need for immunisation against Rubella if this cause of handicapping conditions is to be stopped once and for all time.

Council

The Council have held nine meetings during the year and appointed a sub-committee to attend to the many details concerning the Centre at Market Deeping and also a sub-committee for the National Centre in Ealing. The Council Members are Dr. G. Simon (President), Mrs. P. Freeman (Chairman), Mr. E.D. Roper (Hon. Treasurer), Mrs. J. Hills (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. W. White, Mrs. L. Jameson (Parent members), Mrs. C. Best, Mr. P. Freeman, Mr. G. Williams (co-opted), Mr. T. Best, Mrs. I. Hulse (Education Chairman), Mrs. K. Clisby, Mrs. B. Evans, Mrs. A. Cole, Mrs. H. Chapman, Mrs. P. Burgess, Mr. A. Botwright, Mrs. Blake, Mr. D. Nimmo (Regional Organisers).

Market Deeping Sub-Committee: Mrs. M. White (Chairman), Mrs. P. Freeman
Mrs. J. Hills, Mr. P. Freeman, Mr. T. Best,
Mr. G. Williams

Ealing Sub-Committee: In Process of Formation

Films

In addition to the five films which the Association have in regular use and which are extensively used by voluntary organisations and local authorities, we now have the Magpie film which is a half-hour film made by Thames Television, in which members of our Association took part in bringing to the public's notice the need for immunisation against the Rubella virus and also shows some training given to deaf blind young people and an indication of what is possible for our young people.

Publications

Our publications have again been in big demand. Two Conference Reports are still available but two are now out of print. The two books by Peggy Freeman — "A Parent's Guide to the Early Care of a Deaf/Blind Child" and

"Understanding the Deaf/Blind Child" – Jim Dale's "Basic Communication" and "Progress Guide for Deaf/Blind and/or Severely Handicapped Children" and Tony Best's "Out of Isolation" are still being ordered in large numbers and reports received give an indication of the popularity of our publications, which is not surprising as we are the only Association with information available to help with the deaf/blind child.

Caravans

Dinas

The caravan at Dinas is generally in good condition and the money spent a few years ago on undersealing the caravan has proved to be money well spent. Also the coverings that we made for the seating and cushions has given the interior a nice, tidy appearance. Bookings have been light this year and there are still vacant dates. An added attraction to the site at Dinas this year is that a new outdoor heated swimming pool has been installed and it is situated close to our caravan. This should be ideal.

Elfed Jones.

Leiston

Bookings were up to average and by the letters I have received from several families, the caravan is still giving lots of enjoyment to the many who use it. Several minor repairs were done before the season commenced and the caravan has survived the severe winter without too much structural damage. We are most grateful for the help we receive from the resident Warden and families have benefitted from his help. The small vacuum cleaner will prove a boon.

W. Warraker.

Somercotes

The caravan situated at Somercotes in Lincolnshire is still an attraction to members and the lake for boating and fishing, the small cinema, swimming pool, playground and clubhouse, are appreciated. Although it is well used by members, it is necessary for more bookings to pay it's way.

K. Clisby.

Children's Holiday

Once again the Association held the holiday for deaf blind children during two weeks in July and August. The R.N.I.B. were kind enough to let us take over Sunshine House at Southerndown, Nr. Bridgend, S. Wales and children from all over the country attended, giving their parents a welcome break, as well as the children a lovely time by the sea. A maximum of ten children came each week and were looked after by a large team of volunteer helpers – many of whom were teachers and houseparents working with deaf blind children. The holiday provided a wealth of experience for the children – picnics, trips to fun fairs and places of local interest, many hours of pleasure on the beach and in the sea, as well as play at the Sunshine House which provided a large range of activities such as trampolining, sand play and large climbing apparatus. Some of the more able children enjoyed helping with food preparation, washing up and taking care of their temporary rooms. Certainly, all the children enjoyed themselves.

C. Best

Newsletter

This year has seen the Newsletter produced in book form and although we are pleased at the improvements in the presentation, our aim is to make it even more attractive. An experiment has been made in including photographs and although at the present time these can only be published in black and white, we are experimenting with the production of colour. The progress reports still play a great part in the Newsletter and we are grateful to parents for their continued support in sending these. Parents are able to compare progress of children with similar handicaps to their own as a result of the reports. It is a help to teaching staffs and health authorities in programming for other children. Our thanks are given to Mrs. M. Francis and Mr. P. Hills for their kind assistance with the Newsletter.

Student Enquiries

As a result of the Magpie Appeal there has been a tremendous increase in enquiries, not only from students but from various authorities. The greater number of these enquiries are dealt with by Miss Sheila Warraker who has been our Student Secretary for a number of years. The average monthly enquiries amount to 66. These are received from students on health, education, social work, nursing and various other courses. The work in this direction is very valuable in passing information over a very wide sphere.

The Children

Placement of Rubella and Deaf Blind Children:

At home	20
At home, with visiting teacher	6
At nursery, playgroup	6
At schools for partially hearing or deaf	29
At schools for partially sighted or blind	9
At residential units for general handicaps	14
At day special schools	40
At Pathways	10
At other Deaf Blind Units	41
In hospitals attending school	23
Provision unknown	56
Normal school	3

Over 20's

At home	2
Attending A.T.C. or sheltered workshop and living at home	10
In hospital	2
At work in open employment	8
Residential workshop	3
Residential hostel	3

285

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR DEAF

Receipts and Payments for the year

RECEIPTS

Balances brought forward						£	£
General Fund	...	...	...	...	...		42,052.76
Appeals Fund	...	...	...	...	...		19,429.35
Held on behalf of Regions	...	...	...	...	...		1,414.57
Subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...		143.50
Donations:							
General	...	...	...	...	...		671.41
Appeals Fund	...	...	...	...	...		23,871.01
In Memory of Mrs. Witt	...	...	...	...	...		82.50
Received on behalf of Regions	...	...	...	...	...		418.00
Income Tax Recovered:							
On Building Society Interest, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1,480.45	
On Covenants	...	...	...	...	...	105.59	
Overpaid	...	...	...	...	...	56.55	
							1,642.59
Bequests:							
Mary Rhodes	...	...	...	...	...	1,425.05	
Mrs. M. Sims	...	...	...	...	...	774.63	
							2,199.68
Sale of Publications	...	...	...	...	...		721.30
Interest from Building Societies	...	...	...	...	...		3,514.98
Repayment of loan - (D.R.E.)	...	...	...	...	...		240.00
Grants from:							
Leverhulme Trust	...	...	...	...	...	6,000.00	
Dept. of Health & Social Security	...	...	...	...	...	4,750.00	
							10,750.00
Royalties - "Understanding the Deaf Blind Child"	...	...	...	...	...		40.67
E.D. Roper	}	Members of the Committee					
P. Freeman							
J. Hills							
							<u>£107,192.32</u>

Auditors' Report

We have audited the above Receipts and Payments Account of the National Association for Deaf Blind and Rubella Handicapped with the books of account and vouchers produced to us, together with the information and explanations given us and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

5th Floor
Royal London House
16 Finsbury Square
London EC2A 1TN
8th May, 1979

Signed
MYERS, DAVIES & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

AF/BLIND AND RUBELLA HANDICAPPED

year ended 31st. January 1979

PAYMENTS						£	£
Printing & Stationery:							
General	...	...	...	...	...	2,083.81	
Progress Reports	...	...	...	...	...	425.00	
							2,508.81
Office Expenses:							
Rent	...	...	...	...	...	588.00	
Rates	...	...	...	...	...	117.56	
Answering Service	...	...	...	...	...	314.69	
Gas & Electricity	...	...	...	...	...	62.96	
							1,083.21
Expenses of Council:							
Secretarial	...	...	...	...	...	1,814.20	
Treasurer	...	...	...	...	...	26.79	
Chairman	...	...	...	...	...	257.19	
Meetings & Conference	...	...	...	...	...	889.23	
							2,987.41
Auditors' Fees							162.00
Salary & National Insurance of Secretary, payments to part-time staff & honorarium							5,407.78
Appeals Fund Expenses							629.40
Student Secretary's Expenses							25.38
Miscellaneous Expenses:							
Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	31.03	
Net Cost of Southerndown Holiday	...	...	...	...	...	865.98	
Subscriptions to other Societies	...	...	...	...	...	52.00	
Library Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	71.79	
Film Expenses (net)	...	...	...	...	...	46.75	
Educational Seminars (net)	...	...	...	...	...	164.17	
Press Cuttings Service	...	...	...	...	...	24.84	
Typewriter Maintenance	...	...	...	...	...	7.02	
Gaming Act Licence	...	...	...	...	...	5.00	
							1,268.58
Grants & Donations							1,040.00
Net Expenses of Caravans							385.19
Purchase of Video Kit							1,354.97
Hostel Expenses:							
Gardener	...	...	...	...	...	146.00	
Garden Mower	...	...	...	...	...	221.39	
Garden Tools	...	...	...	...	...	50.29	
							417.68
Study tour of Hollepd							255.00
Grant to Magpie Appeal Expenses							7,650.00
Balances at 31st January, 1979:							
Cash in Hand	...	...	...	...	...	457.63	
Cash at Bank	...	...	...	...	...	14,131.77	
Cash at Building Societies	...	...	...	...	...	67,427.51	
							82,016.91

Notes:

- (a) These accounts do not include cash held by Regions independently, which amounted to £1,982.52 as at 31st December, 1978
- (b) The sums donated to the Magpie Appeal and amounting to £181,706.35 as at 31st January, 1979 have not been included in this account as they are earmarked for a specific purpose and the Appeal remained open as at that date.

Allocation of Balance of Funds

General Fund	...	...	...	...	£37,513.38
Appeals Fund	...	...	...	...	42,670.96
North Region	...	...	...	...	437.89
West Midlands Region	...	...	...	...	391.58
Eastern Region	...	...	...	...	40.00
South West Region	...	...	...	...	15.10
Greater London Region	...	...	...	...	900.00
Irish Region	...	...	...	...	48.00
					<u>£82,016.91</u>

£107,192.32

The figures on page 5 refer to members of our Association only and do not represent the total number of deaf blind and young adults in the country.

Education Committee Report

This year has seen a continuation of our major effort in examining the communication of Deaf/Blind children. We held two week-end seminars which were most successful in further developing the checklist we hope to produce. When completed, this should help teachers to assess communication in Deaf/Blind children and, more importantly, should give guidance and suggestions for their teaching. The education sub-committee also organised an introductory course for staff new to working with Deaf/Blind children. This was held in October and was very well attended by staff from 10 centres. During the year a new Education Chairman and committee was appointed by members of the Education Section. The Chairman is Mrs. Irene Hulse and Committee Members are Mrs. Chris Best, Miss Chrissie Duckett and Mrs. Doreen Norris.

At the present time we are making enquiries as to the possibility of a conference on Communication being held towards the end of this year and the beginning of next year.

Tony Best
Irene Hulse.

REGIONS

London Region

Rarely can the fortunes of an Organisation have changed as radically in one year as those of the National Association for the Deaf Blind & Rubella Handicapped have changed in 1978/79. Last year we counted our finances in hundreds, this year as thousands.

The London Region has had an extremely busy year as it fell to our lot to undertake a large part of the organisation of the work involved in the Maggie Appeal. It is largely due to the competence and enthusiasm of John and Maggie Brooker, our Region's Chairman and Secretary, that this huge responsibility has been coped with so efficiently. They have handled a staggering amount of work and also managed to run a family, a job and produce a new Brooker, such energetic involvement merits the sincere thanks of every member of the Region. Most of us realise how much easier it is to get out of work and responsibility rather than into it.

I have attended a Council Meeting at Coventry on your behalf almost every month. Most of the Association's Council Meetings have been involved with the Warnock Committee Recommendations, Maggie Appeal, Market Deeping young adults hostel and the proposed London Unit and I seem to have spent a lot of time on trains in snowstorms, commuting to Coventry. My latest plea on behalf of London parents, was that the 16+'s in this Region be remembered.

I have been working in liaison with the Polytechnic of North London in order to gather data for a London survey, to further the interests of children and families. This work seems very slow and was held up by the unavailability of our

proposed research worker and by the complexity of evolving a suitable questionnaire but seems at last to be progressing and we hope to have a report soon.

Mobility International have contacted the N.A.D.B.R.H. and I am meeting the director of this organisation with a view to arranging an international holiday/stimulation course for 16 - 30 year olds in the future.

Each month The Webber Row Centre has been the meeting place for the few old faithfuls, some stimulating speakers, committed professional workers, and, most important of all, parents. The parents are the life blood of this Organisation and as the London Region shoulders more responsibility, we are going to need more and more help from every member. At last we possess bricks and mortar, now we have to finance, staff and organise the Centre in London and decide upon the functions it must fulfil to benefit the largest possible number of families and professional people who work with our children.

1978/79 was hectic, the coming year will be even more action packed I am sure, I hope many hands will lighten the load.

May I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a busy and productive year: the rewards of feeling that something concrete is being achieved should make up for the blood, sweat and tears involved and every inch of progress benefits our children as a whole, even if individual families may feel at times that precious little reward is actually coming their way. In the long run, publicity, arousal of public concern and provision of improved facilities must contribute to the well being of each and every one of us.

Mrs. Trisha Burgess.

West Midland Region

During the last twelve months we have carried on with our fund-raising events, the main one being a new venture at the Cresta Club. We still continue with our dances and jumble sales, etc.

Our regional meetings have not been as regular due to the bad weather and on account of having quite a lot of family problems. As a result, the work of the Association regarding meetings has suffered.

The region has followed with great interest the Magpie Appeal. Our thanks go to all persons who have worked and are still working to make it such a success.

Again, Margaret White did very well with the Christmas Cards and gifts, and raised quite a large amount.

My report is rather short this time but I hope that very soon we shall be back in full swing and meeting regularly.

Our members assisted with the children's holiday during the summer and are active in spite of meetings being curtailed.

Barbara Evans.

Eastern Region

Reporting for Eastern Region at the end of the year always presents a problem because, due to our wide dispersion over the area and the obvious lack

of interest shown by some of our listed members, we have very little activity apart from our five or six meetings.

Once again, we can report a very successful dance organised by Mr. & Mrs. Martin at Soham Village Hall, Cambridgeshire and attended this year by Mr. & Mrs. Warraker and their daughter Sheila, who reported, as expected, on the very enjoyable and friendly atmosphere. The dance raised £127.00 for which we extend our grateful thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Martin.

Attendance at our Regional Meetings, as already stated is very disheartening and I must give credit to the faithful core of just 9 or 10 people who religiously turn out and it is for them that it is worth keeping going and as I have said often before, we maintain the atmosphere of a 'family' gathering rather than a region. We appreciate the effort made by our General Secretary, Pryce Owen, in travelling from Coventry to Chelmsford on a Sunday to maintain contact.

We are hoping that this year we will see lots of fine weather so that the caravan at Leiston will be well used and our thanks must go to our Caravan Secretary, Mrs. Warraker, assisted by her husband, for maintaining the van to it's very high standard of comfort.

We, as Eastern Region, were beneficiaries under the will of a very kind lady from the Southend Area, due to the very good publicity work done in that area by our Regional Secretary, Sheila Warraker. This does mean that if and when we wish to provide help or assistance in our area, we will more readily and quickly be able to do so.

We would like to extend our thanks to all those people on our Central Council and those also who have worked so hard on our two projects at Ealing and Market Deeping. These are the concrete results of many years of hope based on the conviction that 'it must and will be done', but not forgetting the invaluable help of our friends.

My personal thanks to all my fellow regional officers and the members of Eastern Region who support us so well.

Albert Botwright
(Regional Organiser - Eastern Region)

South Midlands Region

Nothing has occurred in the South Midlands Region during the year 1978/79. The Regional Organiser is holding the fort for the time being but is hoping for a replacement who will be able to initiate more activity.

Mrs. H. Chapman

North Region

Meetings are held every Monday evening but are in the nature of Bingo sessions. It was felt that members would welcome a night of relaxation one night per week but the few members in the area were not interested in meeting this way due to the problems involved at home. Having started this weekly effort, it was difficult to stop and whilst it was giving pleasure to the public and making our name known, whilst raising money for the Association, this was continued. The work has now fallen on my husband Brian, my daughter Janet and

myself. We are considering moving from the area and after 10 years as Regional Organiser, now feel that I should relinquish the job.

Mrs. K. Clisby.

South Wales Region

During the past year our small group has held regular monthly meetings. In the past our meetings have been held in members' houses, where we have met to discuss our children's progress and to plan fund-raising and publicity activities. Recently we decided to try to increase our active membership and have started to hold open meetings on alternate months generally in one of the local community centres.

In November Peggy Freeman came to Neath to speak to a small but interested group on communication. Our January meeting was cancelled due to the bad weather but in March we held a successful film and coffee evening, when an audience representing parents, friends, social workers, teachers and nurses gathered to see the Magpie Appeal film and "They can be helped", a film on handicapped children produced by the National Children's Home. Plans for future meetings include a talk and film by our local advisor for the visually handicapped and an illustrated talk on a visit to the Deaf/Blind Unit at St. Michielsgestel, Holland, by a teacher of the deaf. We hope that these meetings will attract people who will be interested in supporting our group.

Fund raising activities this year have included a concert by a male voice choir, a dance, box collections and coffee evenings. Local people have again given generously and over £1,000 has been collected during the year. We are especially grateful to one group who have adopted us as their charity of the year. From this we should benefit by another £1,200.

The Magpie Appeal has certainly aroused interest from the general public and we have made several new contacts in different parts of South Wales.

Our two great concerns are firstly that there are still families with deaf/blind children who we have not been able to contact and help, and secondly that by the time our children reach school leaving age, there will be a hostel in our own area for them.

We would like to express our thanks to the Council and especially to Mrs. Peggy Freeman and Mr. Pryce Owen for their help and support throughout the year.

Mrs. A.M. Cole

Scottish Region

We held our first meeting on 8th November, 1978, and have been holding monthly meetings since.

At present, we have the parents of nine children on our roll. Most of them are very enthusiastic and I am quite sure will be an asset to the future work of the Association.

The highlight of our meetings has been a visit by Mr. & Mrs. Freeman when we saw the Magpie Film and then over tea Mrs. Freeman spoke to all the parents

individually. I would like to thank them both for braving the terrible roads and weather conditions to visit us.

While I am preparing this report, the Scottish Daily Record are doing a series on Rubella and the vaccination against German Measles. I am hoping that due to the coverage this subject is getting, we will have more enquiries from the parents of Rubella Handicapped children.

In the next year or so I think that, due to the geography of our country, we may find that another group may be formed in the east of Scotland. Whatever happens I am sure that the work of the Association will benefit.

Finally, I would like to thank Sister Ailish Massey for bringing us together and to assure her of our loyal support in dealing with the teaching of the children under her care.

Danny Nimmo.

Thanks

In echoing the thanks expressed in the Report, I would like also to thank all members of the Council, our Treasurer, Student, Film and Caravan Secretaries and our office staff for their hard work and support during what has been an extra busy year. And to express special thanks to our General Secretary for the dedication he has given to the Association and for his tremendous success in Fund-raising.

Peggy Freeman (Chairman)

I would add my thanks to all who have so willingly given assistance to the Chairman and myself during the year and especially to the many whose names have not been mentioned in the Report and to the loyal office staff, Mrs. M. Hoult and Mrs. I. Ballard, for the help and support given.

Pryce Owen (General Secretary)

